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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEVADA

REBECCA MOLE-DONCHEZ,

٧.

Plaintiff,

JANET NAPOLITANO, an individual, DOE INDIVIDUALS 1 through 300, and ROE

BUSINESS OR GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES 1 through 300, Inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:13-cv-0847-APG-NJK

ORDER

On May 30, 2013, Magistrate Judge Koppe ordered Plaintiff to file a Certificate of Interested Parties in compliance with Local Rule 7.1-1 on or before June 6, 2013. [Dkt. #4.1 Judge Koppe warned that the failure to comply "may result in the issuance of an order to show cause why sanctions should not be imposed." Plaintiff and her counsel failed to file her Certificate of Interested Parties and did not request an extension of time in which to do so.

On June 10, 2013, Judge Koppe entered an Order to Show Cause directing Plaintiff to show cause, no later than June 17, 2103, why sanctions should not be imposed for Plaintiff's failure to comply with May 30 Order. [Dkt. #5.] Plaintiff was warned that "[f]ailing to comply with the Local Rules of Practice, the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and the Court's orders may result in sanctions up to and including casedispositive sanctions." Id. at 1. Notwithstanding the warnings regarding sanctions,

Plaintiff and her counsel failed to respond to the Order to Show Cause or file a Certificate of Interested Parties, and did not request an extension of time.

On June 24, 2013, Judge Koppe – showing notable restraint – entered a second Order to Show Cause based on the failure of Plaintiff and her counsel to comply with the previous orders. [Dkt. #6.] Plaintiff and her counsel were given until July 1, 2013 to show cause why Plaintiff's lawsuit should not be dismissed and why Plaintiff and/or her counsel should not be sanctioned a Court fine in an amount up to \$5,000 pursuant to Local Rule IA 4-1, Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16(f), and/or Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b). *Id.* at 1. Judge Koppe again reiterated that "[f]ailing to comply with the Local Rules of Practice, the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and the Court's orders may result in sanctions up to and including case dispositive sanctions." *Id.* at 1-2. Nonetheless, Plaintiff and her counsel failed to file a response to the second Order to Show Cause and did not request an extension of time to do so.

On July 2, 2013, Judge Koppe entered her Report of Findings and Recommendation [Dkt. #7], recommending that Plaintiff's Complaint be dismissed, and that Plaintiff's counsel personally be fined \$1,000. Plaintiff's counsel paid the fine on July 12, 2013 [Dkt. #8], and on July 19, 2013 he filed Plaintiff's Objections to Judge Koppe's Report of Findings and Recommendation. [Dkt. #9.] Plaintiff's counsel admits that Judge Koppe's findings are correct, but requests that the Court take into consideration his health issue (i.e., he was undergoing in-patient treatment for chemical dependency between June 12 and 20, 2013, with follow up intensive outpatient treatment). *Id.* at Exh. A. This partially explains, but does not excuse, counsel's failure to comply with Judge Koppe's orders. Nor does Plaintiff's counsel explain why his health issue prevented him from responding to those orders after his June 20 release from the treatment program. Moreover, Plaintiff still has not filed her Certificate of Interested Persons. Nevertheless, in order to avoid punishing Plaintiff for the failings of her counsel, the Court will not dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint. Plaintiff will be given one final

Case 2:13-cv-00847-APG-NJK Document 10 Filed 10/08/13 Page 3 of 3

chance to comply with the rules and orders of this court. Plaintiff and her counsel are warned that future violations of rules and orders likely will result in severe sanctions, including dismissal of the Complaint. Based on the foregoing,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Report of Findings and Recommendation is accepted in part. The Court affirms the imposition of the fine against Mr. Trenchak, which has been paid. The Court rejects the recommendation of dismissal of Plaintiff's Complaint.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff shall file her Certificate of Interested Persons within seven days of this Order. The failure to do so will result in dismissal of Plaintiff's Complaint.

Dated: October 8, 2013.

ANDREW P. GORDON UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE